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MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

DECEMBER 31ST 1939.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

OF THE COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health

H. R. DUGDALE, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SAMUEL HODGKINSON, M. S. I. A.

Certificate of R.S.I. & S.I.E.J. Board as a Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of R.S.I. as an Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
Certificate of R.S.I. in Sanitary Science as Applied to Buildings
and Public Works.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

DAVID THOMAS JONES, M.S.I.A.

Certificate of R.S.I. & S.I.E.J. Board as a Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of R.S.I. as an Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Clerk.

MARGARET MOORE.

Surveyor and Water Engineer.

THOMAS COOPER, A.M. Inst. C.E., M. Inst. M. & Cty. E.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Marple Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Eastwood and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following interim report for the year
1939.

1. Vital Statistics.

The Registrar General has supplied two figures representing Resident Population,

(a) for the calculation of Birth Rates :- 11,820.

(b) for the calculation of Death Rates :- 12,350.

Births.

(a) <u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate	75	61	136	Birth Rate per 1000 estimated
Illegitimate	-	4	4	Resident population = 11.84.
	75	65	140	

(b) Still Births.

Legitimate	4	1	5.	Rate per thousand total births = 34.48 or 0.42 per 1000 population.
Total live and still births.	79	66	145.	

Deaths.

(a) All causes.	82	80	162	Death Rate per 1000 estimated Resident population = 13.11
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(b) Deaths from Puerperal Causes Nil.

(c) Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

Legitimate 6 2 8.

Death Rate: All infants per 1,000 live births = 57.14.

Death Rate: Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births = 58.82.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)

<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
14	10	24.

2. (a) Infectious Diseases.

Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.	Number removed to hospital.	Deaths.
Smallpox.	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.	15	11	0
Diphtheria.	24	21	1
Pneumonia.	10	0	0
Erysipelas.	2	0	0
Dysentery.	3	3	0
Whooping Cough.	2	2	0
 Totals	56	37	1

(b) Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality During 1939.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary.		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	Male.	Female.	Male	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0 - 1 year.								
1 - 5 years.								
5 - 15 years.			2	1				
15 - 25 years.	1		3					
25 - 35 years.	1	4	1		3	1		
35 - 45 years.	3	2						
45 - 55 years.	1				1			
55 - 65 years.	1	1						
65 & upwards.	1				1			
 Totals	8	7	6	1	5	1	-	-

The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was :-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>
Males.	26	11
Females.	19	9
 Totals.	45	20



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The District has again been comparatively free from infectious disease and there seems little doubt that the immunisation against Diphtheria of about half the child population during 1937 and 1938 has materially altered the incidence of the disease. At the beginning of the year, the Council made provision for free Diphtheria immunisation of all children under five years of age and agreed to supply the prophylactic free of charge for all of school age. Little advantage has however been taken of the scheme despite fairly extensive advertisement.

Eighteen children only were immunised during the year; sixteen under five years and two over five years of age.

3. Evacuation.

On September 1st and 2nd, 2,800 evacuees were received in the Urban District. A number were suffering from impetigo and it was necessary to provide a hostel which was opened forthwith at the Manchester Cathedral Home, Mellor. Accommodation to deal with any minor infectious diseases occurring in any of my three reception areas was made at "Brentwood" and staffed by two fever trained nurses kindly loaned by the Manchester Health Department. A number of orthopaedic cases were also evacuated and since billeting in private houses was out of the question a large house, "Beechwood" was requisitioned and this is still in use.

Many of the evacuees were dirty and verminous and some suffering from scabies were admitted to the Hyde Isolation Hospital.

Local householders made surprisingly little complaint but were handicapped from the start by the proximity of and constant visiting by parents.

The figures set out below showing the drift back to the City give some indication of the attitude of the townspeople to the Evacuation Schemes.

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Unaccompanied Children.</u>	<u>Accompanied Mothers.</u>	<u>Accompanied Children.</u>	<u>Teachers and Helpers.</u>	<u>Cripples.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Evacuated 1st & 2nd September, 1939.	1612.	500.	597.	50.	60.	2819.
Remaining 24th October, 1939.	976.	145.	164.	35.	51.	1371.
Remaining 1st November, 1939.	932.	145.	164.	35.	49.	1325.
Remaining 31st December, 1939.	487.	17.	26.	31.	25.	586.

4. Public Baths.

One unfortunate outcome of the war has been the requisitioning of the Public Baths for use as a First Aid Post. Large numbers of people, many from outside the District have made good use of the facilities during the summer.

5. Water Supply.

The question of an improved water supply for part of the Urban District has been made much more acute from the possibility of receiving evacuees.

The Ludworth Area is served largely by water derived from the two reservoirs at Devil's Elbow and which on numerous occasions has been found to be grossly polluted. As an interim measure the Council installed a chlorinator at the beginning of the year but while this has improved the laboratory reports it does not affect the adequacy of the supply nor the potability of the water to the consumer.

The Mellor supply, derived from springs at Harrymoor seems incapable of contamination but three bacteriologically unsound reports have been received over a period of two years when samples have been taken at intervals of about a month.

There is only a little over one day's storage at Jordanwallnook reservoir and the flow from Kinder is not always adequate.

A chlorinating plant has been installed but a much more abundant supply to the whole of the Ludworth and Mellor area is urgently needed, and it would seem that the only satisfactory method of dealing with the problem as a whole is an endeavour to obtain all the water needed for the Urban Area from an unimpeachable source.

The Council has considered the problem very earnestly and it seems likely that the County Borough of Stockport, which already supplies the major portion of the area will be asked to consider further proposals.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Eastwood and Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

H. R. DUGDALE.

Medical Officer of Health.

